

Walkable Community Workshops Program: May 24 – May 28

Rhode Island Statewide Planning Program will be holding a series of walkable community workshops in eight local communities. This workshop series is presented by the National Center for Bicycling and Walking (NCBW), with funding provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the RI Statewide Planning Program. The RI Statewide Planning Program is organizing the series, which is endorsed by the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations.

The purpose of these workshops (also called pedestrian road shows) is to make neighborhoods and communities more pedestrian-friendly and walkable. The half-day sessions are designed for professionals in the fields of planning, engineering, law enforcement, public health, historic preservation and education, as well as for elected officials, businesses, neighborhood groups and citizens. The sessions include a walking audit of an area in the host city or town and presentations by trainers from the National Center for Bicycling and Walking. (See their website www.bikewalk.org for very useful ideas and links.) Successes from other states have included implementation of new traffic calming programs; revitalized main streets; more pedestrian-friendly intersections; new, accessible sidewalks; and safe routes to school programs. ***Most importantly, hopefully it will lead to more people walking and bicycling!***

The cities and towns that will participate include: **Providence, Pawtucket, East Providence, Warwick, Middletown, Burrillville, West Warwick, and Portsmouth.** The workshops are to orient and teach people *how* to create walkable communities. Therefore, even if your community is not participating it would be very useful to attend one of the sessions to learn and get ideas. See the complete schedule of each workshop's date, time and place in addition to the walking audit location for the particular town or city. You can RSVP directly to the local contact person to indicate your attendance. Ronnie Sirota at Statewide Planning is the Project Manager for the workshop series. You can also contact her at 222-1233 or rsirota@doa.state.ri.us for information about attending one or more of the workshops.

RHODE ISLAND STATEWIDE PLANNING PROGRAM WALKABLE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP PROGRAM

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DATE, TIME	TOWN/ CITY	MEETING PLACE (WORKSHOP)	WALKING AUDIT	CONTACT PERSON (RSVP)
<i>Monday, May 24 @ 1 p.m.</i>	<i>Pawtucket</i>	Blackstone Valley Visitor Center 175 Main St. Pawtucket	Downtown loop beginning at Visitor Center	Karen Godin @ 724-5200
<i>Tuesday, May 25 @ 8:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Warwick</i>	Warwick City Hall 3275 Post Rd. Warwick	Apponaug area around City Hall	Patricia Reynolds @ 728-2000 Ext. 6293
<i>Tuesday, May 25 @ 1:00 p.m.</i>	<i>East Providence</i>	Grace Chapel Church 130 Roger Williams Ave. East Providence	Immediate neighborhood surrounding Grace Chapel Church & the Myron Francis School	Stephanie Camille 435-7531 to RSVP Patrick Hanner 435-7533 if questions
<i>Wed., May 26 @ 8:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Providence</i>	RI Dept of Admin. Conference Rm C 2 nd Fl. One Capitol Hill Providence	Smith Street from State House to Chalkstone Ave.	Bonnie Lloyd @ 351-4300
<i>Wed., May 26 @ 1:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Middletown</i>	Middletown Public Library 700 West Main Rd. Middletown	West Main Rd. in the vicinity of 2 Mile Corner (Rt.138 & Rt. 114) to Valley Rd. & Rt. 114	Ronald Wolanski @ 849-4027
<i>Thursday, May 27 @ 8:00 a.m.</i>	<i>West Warwick</i>	West Warwick Town Hall 1170 Main St. West Warwick	Arctic area around Town Hall	David Dodes @ 827-9026
<i>Thursday, May 27 @ 1:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Burrillville</i>	Pascoag Fire Station #2 141 Howard Ave. Village of Pacoag Burrillville	Pascoag Village in the vicinity of Main St., Sayles Ave., the Bridgeway & other abutting streets	Christine Langlois @ 568-4300 Ext. 131
<i>Friday, May 28 @ 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Portsmouth</i>	Portsmouth Town Hall 2200 East Main Rd. Portsmouth	East Main Rd. (Rt. 138) by Town Hall	Robert Gilstein @ 683-0888

Please call the local contact listed above to RSVP and to ask questions. Or contact Ronnie Sirota at Statewide Planning for any additional information @ 222-1233 or rsirota@doa.state.ri.us).